(b) Does not arise.

(c) The problems of handicapped persons are different from problems of older persons. Older persons cannot be treated as handicapped persons as their problems are related generally to old age and not due to disability due to a handicap.

Export of steel and pig iron products by SAIL

*697. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has been exporting steel and pig iron products;

(b) if so, the total foreign exchange earned by SAIL by exporting steel and pig iron products;

(c) whether SAIL has any proposal to increase the export of steel and pig iron products in coming years; and

(d) if so, the proposal mooted in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total foreign exchange earned (FOB basis) on exports of Iron & Steel Products during the year 1999- 2000 (April-Dec.'1999) in equivalent rupee terms is Rs. 632.60 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) SAIL has, *inter-alia*, evolved the following strategies to increase exports:

— Value added exports

— Consistent export

— Market segmentation and sustained presence in respective segments

— Improved infrastructure at loading ports and steel plants

— Adequate and suitable market intelligence.

Proposal for Amendment of SC / ST list in Gujarat

*698. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state: